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Sunday School History

Baxter Presbyterian Church

Baxter Church was built and dedicated in 1858 and while there is no record anywhere to the effect that there was a Sabbath School from the beginning, yet, testimony of living persons says that there was. Mrs. William Deputy, who was before her marriage Miss Lena McLaughlin, and who is now over seventy-four years old, says that she can remember when she used to ride on a horse behind Aunt Rachel McCutcheon when she was just a little bit of a tot to Sunday School at Baxter. Mr. Ernest Moore, who is eighty-four years old, says there was a Sunday School in Baxter Church ever since he can remember. Not regularly, perhaps, but off and on. Mr. R. D. McCutcheon seems to have been Supt. from the beginning.

It might be interesting to note that Mr. Moore says that in 1858 Dunmore was known as Mathewsville.

Session minutes say that there was no Sunday School in 1881 but that there was a good Union Sunday School in 1882. No records can be found for the Union Sunday School. It seems from living testimony that Mr. R. D. McCutcheon and Mr. Rice Moore were Superintendents. Mrs. Rachel McCutcheon, Mrs. Mary Frances Pritchard, Miss Ella Pritchard, and Miss Melia Pritchard were teachers.

In 1890 the Methodist Church was built and the Methodist members of the Union School organized a Sunday School in their own church.

In an old Secretary's Book there is record of attendance and collection for Sunday School in 1891 and 1892 but no record of real organization until 1895. On April 14th, 1895 Sunday School was organized, with the following officers and teachers:

D. F. McLaughlin, Supt.
 J. B. McCutcheon, Assistant Supt.
 Mrs. Bettie Pritchard, Treas.
 C. L. Pritchard, Sec.
 Mrs. Mary Frances Pritchard, Teacher for the female class
 D. F. McLaughlin, Teacher for male class No. 2
 Miss Lila Pritchard, Teacher for children
 Mr. C. L. Pritchard, Teacher for male class No. 1
 Miss Melie Pritchard, Organist

Charley McLaughlin, deacon

The following were enrolled:

Mrs. M. F. Pritchard	John Carpenter
Miss Alice McLaughlin	C. L. Pritchard
Miss Melie Pritchard	Lola McLaughlin
Mrs. M. Carpenter	Clarence McLaughlin
Mrs. Maggie McLaughlin	Elmer McLaughlin
Miss Lila Pritchard	Charley McLaughlin
Mrs. Bettie Pritchard	William McLaughlin
Miss Lena McLaughlin	Mrs. Ada McLaughlin
J. B. Pritchard	Mrs. Minnie McLaughlin
D. F. McLaughlin	William Reynolds
Anna McLaughlin	Walter Bird
Wesley Pritchard	C. B. Stecker
Forrest Pritchard	Odie Smith
Fred Pritchard	Arnie McLaughlin
J. B. McCutcheon	Mrs. Sallie Anderson
Maggie McCutcheon	Mrs. M. E. Metcalf
John Pritchard	Jennie Smith
Ellis Carpenter	Arnold McLaughlin

Sunday School was reorganized on April 5th, 1896.

The following officers and teachers were elected: D. F. McLaughlin, Supt., J. B. Campbell, Asst. Supt., Mrs. Bettie Pritchard, Treas., C. L. Pritchard, Sec., Mrs. M. F. Pritchard, Teacher Senior Female Class, J. B. Campbell,

Teacher of Male Senior Class.

For 1939-1940 the following officers were elected:

John U. Bevener, Supt.
 Russell Campbell, Asst. Supt.
 Marilee Campbell, Sec. and Treas.

The following teachers:

Mrs. Fred Pritchard, Bible Class
 Mrs. John Pritchard, Young People
 Mr. Walter Rively, Intermediates
 Mrs. Harry Miller, Juniors
 Mrs. John U. Bevener, Primary
 Mrs. L. R. Campbell, Beginners

During the past year the Sunday School has been very active. During the summer months there were about seventy-two on the roll. Attendance dropped down some during the winter months. Considering the weather, however, attendance was more than could be expected.

Sunday School contributed \$5.00 to help send delegates to Young People's Conference at Lewisburg.

Offerings this year, (Special)

Orphanage	\$15.00
Rally Day	5.00

There was a nice treat at Christmas time for the whole Sunday School. Besides the lesson literature, Sunday School has been distributing the following literature:

"Onward"
 "Junior Life"
 "The Story Hour"

HISTORY OF BAXTER AUXILIARY

In the year of 1905, Miss Flora Moomau, of Liberty Church, Greenbank, helped to organize an Aid Society in the Baxter Church. The membership was so small that all church members were invited to join as honorary members and pay dues of 5¢ per month on the building fund.

Soon after the organization, the Aid Society was instrumental in having the Church papered, painted inside and out, a good wax finish put on the floor, bought Brussels carpet for the aisles and front of the church, four large hanging lamps. A new shingle roof was put on, one side and end of the church was weatherboarded, a belfry put on and a new bell bought.

From the beginning the Aid Society made liberal offerings to both Home and Foreign Missions. In view of the fact that the church membership was small, and the active membership of the Society very small, it was with much prayer and perseverance that these things were accomplished.

Among the first presidents of the organization were: Miss Lillian McElwee (now Mrs. Edgar McLaughlin of Maxwilton), Miss Cornelia Pritchard, Mrs. Wm. Geiger, Miss Grace Moore (now Mrs. H. E. Nixon), and Miss Lila Pritchard.

Lillian McElwee was one of the most active presidents as well as members. Mrs. Mary Geiger was the most consecrated president. She served in this office for several years, until 1920 when she left the community. Grace Moore

Nixon was president when she decided to take training for a nurse. Her sister Elizabeth filled her place faithfully. Mrs. Mary F. Pritchard was a life long member. Mrs. Betty Pritchard was also a life member.

In the early summer of 1912, a Children's Missionary Society was organized. A number of children came regularly. Rev. Lewis Lancaster was the only missionary they all knew so they decided to send \$25.00 each year to him, which he used at Hsuehoufu, China.

Offering 1912 to 1918	----	\$90.00
" 1918 to 1922	----	100.00

The faithful members were: Jean Pritchard, Dorsey Geiger, and Mary Campbell. Their school called them from home and no one followed in their work.

Under the guidance of Mrs. D. McD. Monroe, the Aid Society was organized into the Woman's Auxiliary in the year of 1920. Mrs. L. R. Campbell was the first president, and served two years. Other presidents were:

Mrs. John Pritchard	1922 - 1924
Miss Cornelia Pritchard	1924 - 1926
Mrs. John Pritchard	1926 - 1928
Mrs. Fred Pritchard	1928 - 1931
Mrs. John Hevener	1931 - 1933
Mrs. L. R. Campbell	1933 - 1934

In 1914 the church was again repaired. Sheet rock was put on the walls. A new furnace was installed. Church was painted inside and out. The seats and pulpit were varnished. Total expenditure for repairs \$657.00. - All paid by the Auxiliary.

In 1930 a metal roof was put on at the cost of 150.00. All church members helped with this fund. In 1925 a new piano was purchased for the church. Church members, Auxiliary members, and others helped with this fund which was about 250.00.

In 1931, Miss Margaret Fritchard, who came into this church in April 1911, went as a registered nurse to the Foreign Mission field in Kwangju, Korea. She went to serve and to teach nursing to the natives in our Hospital there.

From the very beginning of its organization in 1920, the Auxiliary tried to follow the outline of work as planned by the Woman's Auxiliary. There has been a good increase in membership.

In 1931 a new office was created, that of Historian. Mrs. Carlton Fritchard was elected to serve. From this date on an illustrated history is being kept of the Auxiliary.

In the Spring of 1933 the Auxiliary was fortunate in securing R. F. C. labor and the badly needed and long wished for new floor was laid, all hardwood with a light oak finish. The furnace room which leaked was drained. The church was underpinned and the fence reconditioned. The expenditure was 107.00.

In the same year our pastor's wife, Mrs. D. McD. Monroe, was made Presbyterial president. In July 1933

Group conference for this district met in this church.

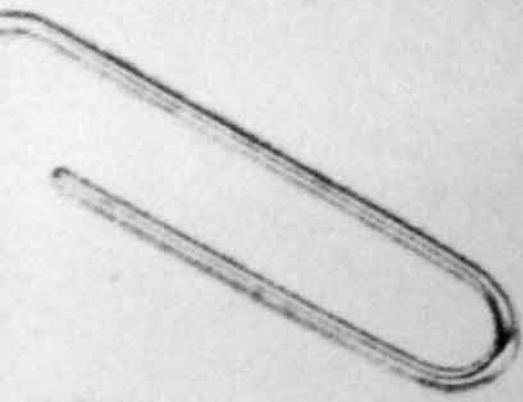
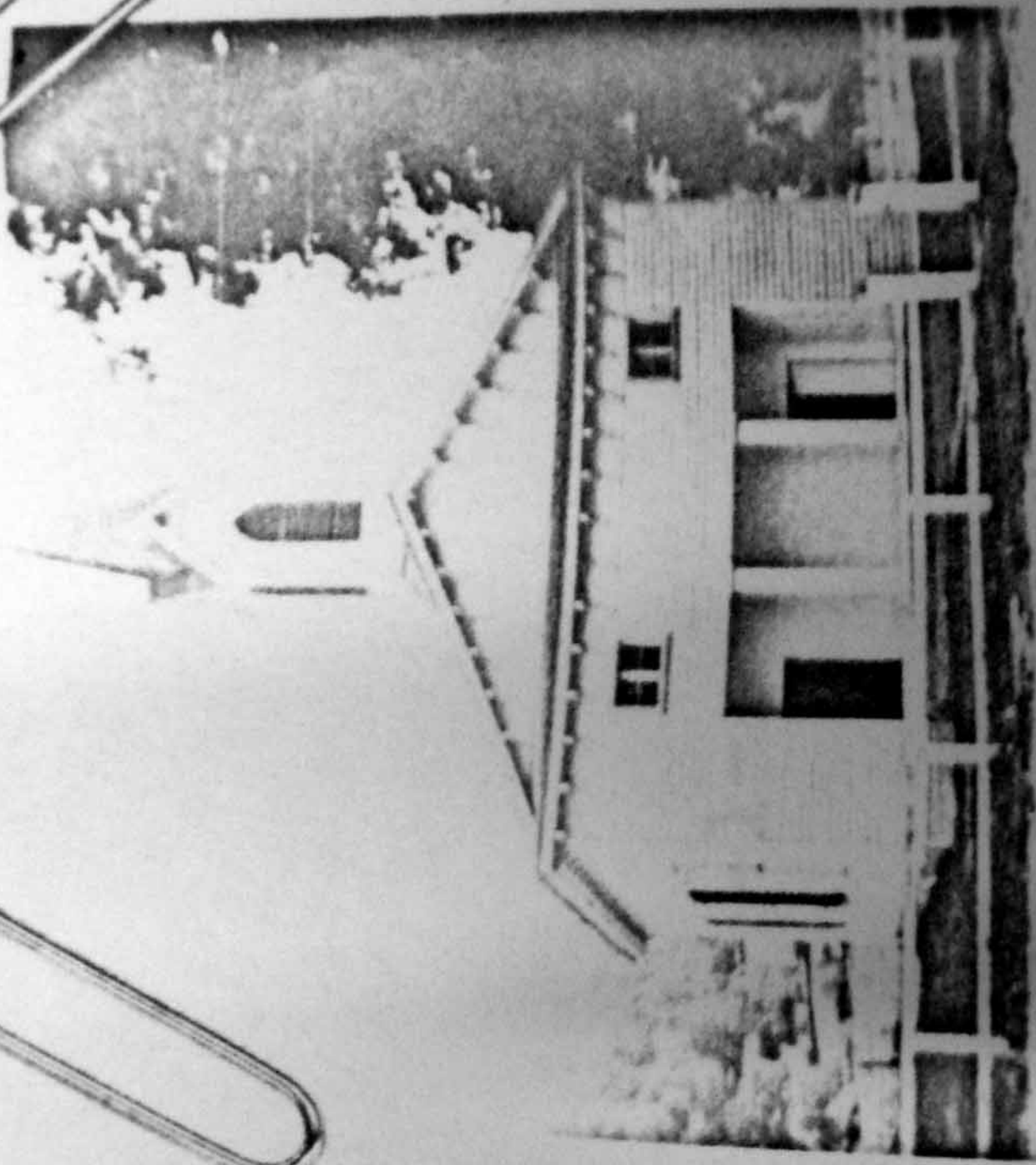
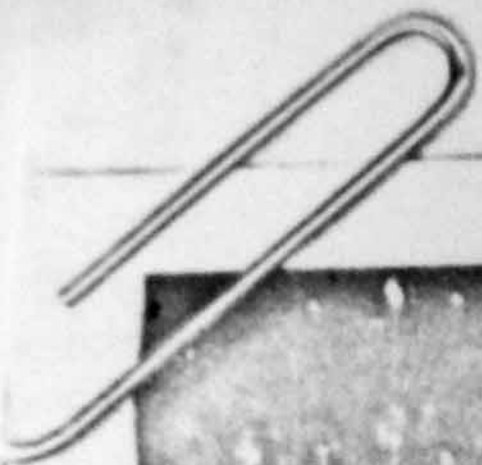
This Auxiliary has continued along these same lines to the present time. At the present time the following officers are serving:

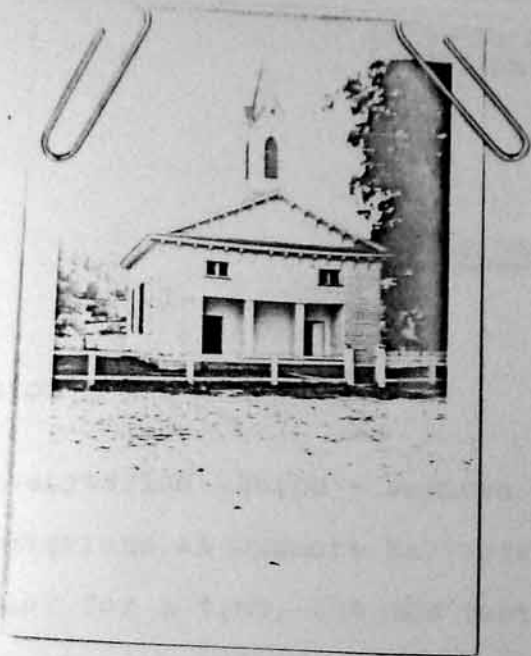
Mrs. Samuel Barlow, President
Mrs. Harry Miller, Vice-president
Mrs. Fred Pritchard, Sec. and Treas.
Mrs. Carlton Pritchard, Historian

Some of the work the present year is a box of clothing sent to Mrs. Sloop at Crossshore. A nice donation of canned food was made by the members of the Auxiliary for the orphanage at Lewisburg. During the hunting season the ladies of the Auxiliary served hot lunches and coffee to the hunters at Camp Seneca and realized \$38.34.

From History of the Baxter Church by

Miss Ella Pritchard
Mrs. Fred Pritchard
Mrs. Carlton Pritchard





Pocahontas Co.

BAXTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH- Dunmore, W. Va.

Organized 1859 - Built 1858

Pocahontas County

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Chapter 6 - Section 1 & 2

Baxter Presbyterian Church - Dunmore

The Presbyterians at Dunmore had worshipped at Liberty Church at Greenbank for a time, but the fact that they had to journey on horseback or in little shping wagons for ten or twelve miles to Liberty Church was very wearisome, and in 1858 they had a mind to build a little church of their own at Dunmore. During the summer of that year they erected the building. Very much to their credit, it was complete with inside furnishings, painted inside and out, and the yard planted with roses and shrubbery.

Baxter Church building was dedicated on August 27, 1858. The dedicatory sermon was preached by the Rev. C. M. See. The test was from 127 Psalms, first verse, "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it,"

The deed for the land upon which the church was built was not made until July 5, 1861, from John W. and Caroline E. Warwick to Robert D. McCutcheon, Robert Curry, Jacob C. McLoughlin, Samuel H. McCutcheon and William T. Gammon, Trs. of Baxter Church, 84 sq. poles for Baxter Old School Presbyterian Church at Dunmore.

On August 1, 1859, a number of members of Liberty Church, living nearest Baxter Church, petitioned Greenbrier Presbytery to be organized into a church at Baxter and Presbytery, grant-

ing the request, made the necessary arrangements for the organization of a church at Baxter. One year after the church was built on August 21, 1859, it was organized by the Rev. John C. Barr. Robert D. McCutcheon and Robert Curry were elected ruling elders. The session of Liberty Church transferred the following sixteen members, some of whom were very young, to be organized into the Baxter Church:

Robert D. McCutcheon) Elders
Robert Curry	

Elizabeth McCutcheon

Nancy McLaughlin

Samuel H. McCutcheon

Christiana Jane McCutcheon

Elizabeth E. Curry

Caroline R. Nottingham

Nancy C. McCutcheon

Matilda G. Craig

Caroline L. Warwick

John B. McCutcheon

Wm. A. G. McCutcheon

Robert L. McCutcheon

Elizabeth E. McCutcheon

Mary Jane McLaughlin

It appears that Rev. John C. Barr ministered to the Church until Rev. R. P. Kennedy came in 1860. During the Civil War Federal troops camped in this nice new building which had been so comfortably furnished and left it a wreck

for many years. New paint, paper, carpet and lamps added much to restoring it for the fiftieth anniversary. In 1926 new walls were put in and it was painted both inside and outside. A new fence was also built.

The Baxter Church has been served by some twenty-five pastors and supplies as follows:

John C. Barr	1859 - 1860
R. P. Kennedy	1860 -
M. D. Dunlap	1867 - 1869
Mathew Lyle Lacy (Occasional)	
David S. Sydenstricker (Supply)	1870 - 1874
A. H. Hamilton	1875 - 1876
J. H. McCown	1878 - 1882
Wm. T. Price	1884 - 1891
J. C. McCall (Supply)	1891 - 1892
Henry W. McLaughlin	1900 - 1904
A. F. Watkins (Supply)	1904
Robert T. Fultz	1905 - 1906
W. W. Bain	1907 - 1909
J. S. Kennison	1910 - 1913
Lewis Lancaster (Supply)	1914
H. H. Leach	1915 - 1916
L. A. Kelly	1916 - 1918
J. M. Sydenstricker (Supply)	1918
D. McD. Monroe	1919 - 1925
George Mauze	1926 - 1928

D. McD. Monroe

1928 - 1936

A. B. Williford

1938 - present

Miss Margaret Pritchard, daughter of Wm. J. Pritchard, and a member of the Baxter Church, became a missionary to Korea and has been serving as such for about nine years.

On August 29, 1858, the Lords Supper was administered in this church for the first time.

The Baxter Church has had one outpost at McLaughlin school which has added many members to the church, also two deacons and established many christian homes. Recently this school house has not been used and the people are transferred by truck to the church at Dunmore. The Hively and the Fertig families from Thorny Creek come to the Dunmore Church.

A Sunday School was organized at an early date though it was sometimes closed for the winter, or for short intervals, as quite a number had to travel several miles horseback.

The Ladies Aid Society was organized in 1905. Miss Flora Moomay of Greenbank assisted in the organization. It was reorganized in 1920 according to the standards of the Womans Auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church.

Juanita S. Dilley
Clover Lick, W. Va.
Pocahontas County
Chapter 6
November 22, 1940

NEW SALEM - GREENBANK

This is one of the old log churches of the Methodist Episcopal denomination. It was at Greenbank on land now owned by John Gum just across the road from the present church.

The deed for the land was given on September 2, 1837, by James Wooddell and Jane Wooddell his wife to George Burner, Robert C. Warwick, John Waugh, Henry Arbogast, James L. Moore, Jacob Sutton and James Wooddell, trustees. One acre, 16 poles for the sum of \$1.00, on which they shall erect or cause to be erected a place of worship for the use of the Methodist Episcopal church.

* For some reason or other, this old church was abandoned in the 1850's and the present church was built. I could find only one man in Greenbank who even knew there had been an old log church there, that man was Pierce Wooddell. He says that about all he can remember is that he and another boy climbed upon the log frame and that the other boy fell off and broke his arm. The church at that time had no roof and no ceiling.

It is believed to have been completed and dedicated in the year of 1839.

* The Greenbank church, at the end of the Civil War faced the same situation as many of the other churches of the county, separation into northern and southern branches. This church was dedicated to the Methodist Protestants and no doubt the Northern branch could have held it, but there were many more of the Southern members. Therefore, in order to avoid a law suit, the Southerners bought out the Northern members and the situation ended peaceably, and the church became an M. E. Church, South. Mr. Wooddell says that he has heard his father say that he paid \$20.00 into this fund.

The New Salem church was torn down soon after the war, but I cannot find out why it was built and used for only about 17 years and then a new church built unless the old log church was too small to accommodate the growth of the community and it was decided to build a bigger church.

This with what you will find in the old Stewards Book will be about all the information available on the New Salem church.

From - * Pierce Wooddell

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